



Welcome Back Talk

Sponsored by the Department of Philosophy

Dr. Chris Tindale will be delivering a talk entitled:

Inside the City of Reason: Revisiting Plato's Achievement

Abstract:

Popular accounts of the History of Philosophy have Aristotle developing original concepts of logic, rhetoric, and dialectic, giving them methodical substance, and providing a unified view of argumentation that has no clear precedent. In challenging this account on every point, I go back to Plato and his ideas on logic, rhetoric, and dialectic. In his *Dialogues* we find an understanding of reason's power as rich and as comprehensive as any That will appear later.

This is a thesis that would require a book-length study for its support. In this talk, I attempt no more than to challenge some of the orthodoxies of the tradition by way of exploring three questions: What was Socratic argument? Did Plato endorse the dialectic in which we see Socrates engaged? And is it the case, as historian Tom Conley insists, that "Plato had nothing good to say about rhetoric"? The picture that emerges both corrects errors of interpretation and gives credit where it is due.

Dr. Tindale is Director, Centre for Research in Reasoning, Argumentation and Rhetoric & Distinguished University Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Windsor

3:00 – 4:00 p.m., September 21, 2022. Katzman Lounge, Vanier Hall. Food & light refreshments will be available after the talk